

Impetigo

(im-peh-ty-go)

Impetigo is a common bacterial infection of the outer layers of the skin. It is contagious and can spread through direct skin contact with an infected person. Impetigo frequently appears in young children under the age of 6, although adults can also get it. The infection is often itchy and painful.

Two Types of Impetigo

Non Bullous - The most common type that is characterized by red, oozing sores that eventually develop into a yellow crust. It usually affects the face, head and neck.

Bullous - A far less common type, and mostly occurs in newborn children. It is distinguished by large, flaccid sores and manifests in areas that the skin comes in frequent contact by rubbing together.

Causes & Risk Factors

Those who are impacted usually have skin that shows prior signs of irritations. Some causes and risk factors are:

- Scrapes and Cuts
- Insect bites
- Scratching
- Eczema
- Poison Ivy



Symptoms

Symptoms can vary, but generally, red bumps or sores appear that cause itchiness and ooze yellow fluid for both types of impetigo. Sores can range in size - they can be as small as a pimple or as big as a coin.

Treatment

If you think you or your child may have impetigo, talk to your doctor about the treatment options available.

If left untreated complications could occur such as fever, malaise and swollen lymph nodes.



For more information
www.canadianskin.ca

